

We claim:

1. A fiber optic splitter package comprising:  
a housing;  
5 a fiber splitter assembly disposed within the housing; and  
a flexible retainer member contacting and retaining at least a portion of the fiber  
splitter assembly within the housing, said flexible retainer member having a modulus of about  
30 to about 80 measured on the Shore A hardness scale.
- 10 2. The fiber optic splitter package of claim 1, wherein the housing has a passageway and  
the fiber splitter assembly is disposed within the passageway of the housing.
3. The fiber optic splitter package of claim 1, wherein the flexible retainer member  
comprises silicone.
- 15 4. The fiber optic splitter package of claim 1, wherein the housing is generally oval in  
cross section.
5. The fiber optic splitter package of claim 1, wherein the housing is generally  
20 rectangular in cross section.
6. The fiber optic splitter package of claim 1, wherein the housing is generally is circular  
in cross section.
- 25 7. The fiber optic splitter package of claim 1, wherein the housing has a top portion and a  
bottom portion.
8. The fiber optic splitter package of claim 1, wherein the flexible retainer member  
prevents the fiber splitter assembly from contacting the housing.
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9. The fiber optic splitter package of claim 1, wherein the housing is made from stainless steel.

5 10. A method for retaining a fiber splitter assembly within a housing comprising:  
disposing the housing in a holder;  
inserting the fiber splitter assembly into the housing; and  
introducing a flexible retainer member into the housing and around the fiber splitter  
assembly, the flexible retaining member substantially contacting at least a portion of the fiber  
splitter assembly, and said flexible retainer member having a modulus of about 30 to about 80  
10 measured on the Shore A hardness scale.

11. The method for retaining a fiber splitter assembly of claim 10, wherein the flexible  
retainer member is introduced as a fluid.

15 12. The method for retaining a fiber splitter assembly of claim 11, further comprising the  
step of curing at least a portion of the liquid flexible retainer member prior to introducing the  
remaining portion of the liquid flexible retainer member.

20 13. The method for retaining a fiber splitter assembly of claim 12, further comprising the  
step of curing the remaining portion of the liquid flexible retainer member.

25 14. The method for retaining a fiber splitter assembly of claim 10, wherein the step of  
inserting the fiber splitter assembly includes holding the fiber splitter assembly relative to the  
housing such that the fiber splitter assembly does not contact the housing before and after the  
introduction of the flexible retainer member.

15. The method of retaining a fiber splitter assembly of claim 10, wherein the holder holds  
the housing with at least one magnet.

16. A fiber optic splitter package having a housing, said fiber optic splitter package comprising:

a fiber splitter assembly inserted into a passageway in said housing without contacting the housing; and

a resilient retainer member formed around the fiber splitter assembly contacting at least a portion of the fiber splitter assembly and defining at least a partial buffer zone between the housing and the fiber splitter assembly within the housing, said flexible retainer member having a modulus of about 30 to about 80 measured on the Shore A hardness scale.

17. The fiber optic splitter package of claim 16, wherein the fiber splitter assembly includes optical fibers extending therefrom, and wherein said optical fibers do not include an S-bend formed therein.

18. The fiber optic splitter package of claim 17, wherein the fiber splitter assembly includes a plurality of optical fibers extending from a first end thereof and a single optical fiber extending from a second end thereof opposite the first end.